

# REACH

A publication of the U.S. Department of Energy for all Hanford Site employees



**PREVENTING FIRE WITH FIRE:** Hanford Firefighter Joe DeRousie Jr. uses a “drip torch” to ignite dry grass along State Route 24. The Hanford Fire Department has received Department of Energy approval to perform prescribed roadside burning on parts of that highway and State Route 240. “Non-native grasses and weeds such as cheatgrass have moved into much of the area burned by last year’s fire,” said Fire Chief Don Good. “It is already very dry and poses a considerable fire hazard along state highways running through the Hanford Site. Our goal is to remove these large areas of volatile fuels and create improved fire management zones along Hanford’s boundaries.” Burning will occur as weather permits, with State Department of Transportation flagging crews providing traffic control and HFD managing the activity with multiple ground personnel, two pumper tankers and a water tender. With the potential for another extreme wildland fire season, Hanford employees and visitors are reminded to always call 9-1-1 (or 373-3800 if using a cellular phone) to report any smoke or fire.